

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 14983 221102Z

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

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FOR S/S-S AND S/S-EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECVISIT LONDON

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ARTICLE APPEARING IN DAILY EXPRESS
SEPTEMBER 22:

BEGIN QUOTE: CONCERN ABOUT THE ECONOMY IS FORCING MR.
CALLAGHAN TO TAKE A GRIP ON THE LABOUR PARTY'S SPENDING
CUTS REVOLT.

THE PREMIER HAS DECIDED THAT A SHOWDOWN WITH MRS.
BARBARA CASTLE ON FRIDAY SHOULD HAVE PRIORITY OVER A
POSSIBLE MEETING WITH DR. KISSINGER ON THE OUTCOME OF HIS
AFRICAN VISIT.

MR. CALLAGHAN'S ORDER OF PRIORITIES--SEEMINGLY
PUTTING PARTY AFFAIRS BEFORE THE AFFAIRS OF STATE--BECAME
KNOWN LAST NIGHT.

IT APPEARED THAT A MEETING OF LABOUR'S NATIONAL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN BLACKPOOL MIGHT CLASH WITH DR.
KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL IN LONDON.

IF THAT HAPPENS, MR. CALLAGHAN HAS DECIDED THAT HIS
PLACE IS IN BLACKPOOL, NOT LONDON, AND THAT DR.
KISSINGER WILL HAVE TO WAIT AN HOUR OR TWO.

MR. CALLAGHAN WANTS TO HEAD OFF ATTACKS BY THE
LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK, WHICH COULD BE DAMAG-
ING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S CREDIBILITY AND ALMOST FATAL FOR
THE POUND.

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PAGE 02 LONDON 14983 221102Z

HIS TARGET IS A CRITICAL RESOLUTION DRAFTED BY MRS.

CASTLE WHICH CALLS ON THE GOVERNMENT TO REVERSE ITS
SPENDING CUTS.

MR. CALLAGHAN'S PERSONAL INFLUENCE ON THE LABOUR
EXECUTIVE--AND HIS VOTE--WILL BE NEEDED TO OUTGUN THE
LEFTWING AND STOP MRS. CASTLE'S MOTION BEING PUT TO THE
CONFERENCE.

BY CLEARING HIS DIARY OF ALL OTHER ENGAGEMENTS, THE
PRIME MINISTER IS OUT TO SHOW MRS. CASTLE WUD ENERGY
SECRETARY MR. TONY BENN WHO IS BOSS.

THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION CAME FROM LABOUR'S
HOME POLICY COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MR. BENN.

GOVERNMENT WORRIES ABOUT THE ECONOMY WERE DISCUSSED
BY MR. CALLAGHAN WITH MINISTERS AT DOWNING STREET
YESTERDAY.

NOT WANTING TO SNUB DR. KISSINGER ENTIRELY, THE
PREMIER HAS CANCELLED A SPEECH HE WAS TO HAVE GIVEN AT
AN ITV 21ST BIRTHDAY DINNER TOMORROW--JUST IN CASE DR.
KISSINGER ARRIVES IN TIME.

IF THEIR MEETING HAS TO BE DELAYED MR. CALLAGHAN
WILL FLY BACK FROM BLACKPOOL ON FRIDAY. END QUOTE.

ARMSTRONG

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